

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When record information is recorded on a recording medium with recording control information pre-recorded thereon by forming pre-pits so that the recording control information will be used to control the recording of the record information to be recorded on the recording medium, a first light beam having first power and a second light beam having second power different from the first power are irradiated to the pre-pits on a time-shared basis according to the record information to generate read signals generated from electrical signals according to the amounts of reflected light of the respective beams so that the pre-pits will be detected from inputs of the read signals. In this configuration, the pre-pits are detected from only the read signals input during a period of irradiation of the second light beam.